

## Poly Prep Wins Fight To Remain Tax Exempt

### Harding And Green Chosen Blue And Gray Leaders

LACROSSE AND WRESTLING CAPTAINS  
TO BE SCHOOL LEADERS OF  
RIVAL FACTIONS

Richard Bernay Harding and Edward Gonound Green will head the Blues and the Grays respectively in the competition for the rest of the year. The school leaders of the rival factions were chosen by vote of the school after the nomination addresses given last Wednesday morning in Chapel. They both won by the narrowest of margins from their opposing candidates, David Swanson of the Grays and John Matthews of the Blues, who now automatically come into the position of senior class leaders.

Green and Harding are both outstanding athletes. Green was star member of the football team, and on the basketball team. He has been on the lacrosse team for several years being captain for this year. Harding has for two years been captain of the wrestling team, as well as a member of the football and tennis teams. Both are members of Oasis.

The purpose of the division of the school into Blues and Grays is to stimulate interest in intramural athletic rivalry, which culminates with the grand battle at the end of the year known as field day, when the color leader for the year is determined.

INDEPENDENT POLY TABLOID TO  
BE PUBLISHED EVERY WEEK

This issue marks the first of what the publishers hope will be a regular weekly institution. The Polygraphic is an independent paper which will as much as possible deal with stories of the feature and the humorous rather than the news type, which in future editions shall be profusely illustrated with pictures of scholastic interest. It is not intended to interfere with the official organ of the school, the Polygon, in any way.

Since the editors of the Polygraphic have intentions of making the paper one of a pictorial and humorous nature, all contributions, cartoons, jokes, etc. will be greatly appreciated and enthusiastically received.

The price will be three cents per issue, or two issues for five cents. With additional financial resources, the publishers expect to make the next issue bigger & better.



### Poly Boy Pays Visit To Florida Alligator Farm

Alligator farms, whether you know it or not, have been highly commercialized in the past twenty five years. A certain member of the Fifth Form will bear witness to the statement, for he visited one during the spring vacation, and tells us that the farm which he visited, one of the largest in the country, covers an area of about four square miles.

But this one particular farm, which is in St. Augustine, Florida, also specializes in ostriches. However, it is asserted that the ostrich-feather trade fell away to practically nothing because of the decline in the popularity of plummed hats, and the decrease in sale of dancing fans. But about a year ago a few orders began to come in.

Approximately six thousand alligators are now kept on this farm, their ages ranging from six months to nine hundred years, with weights ranging from less than a pound to almost half a ton.

To catch an alligator alive, the hunter dives into the water and seizes the reptile's head in both of his arms, pressing its closed jaw against his shoulder while forcing its head backwards. In this position the beast is helpless, and can be trussed up easily.

The alligator has to breathe only four or five times in twelve hours, and has been known to hold his breath as long as three and a half hours at a stretch. When they

(Continued on Page 4 Col.1)

FAVORABLE DECISION BY TAX BOARD  
ENDS SIX MONTH FIGHT TO  
GAIN EXEMPTION

Poly is to remain tax exempt despite the fact that it was placed on the City of New York tax rolls six months ago, along with many other hitherto tax-free institutions throughout the city. The action was made by the city in an effort to find new sources of income.

When the hearing was granted last Wednesday, the Board of Taxes and Assessments unanimously approved to the restoration of the exempt privileges.

This decision culminates six months of worry and opposition on the part of those connected with the school. The proposed tax on Poly's million dollar assessment would have meant the ruin of this school, for the tuition of each student would have had to be raised a bout seventy dollars, inasmuch as teacher's salaries have been already cut to the bone. Dr. Allen said that with the present state of financial affairs, this would mean the closing of a school which for eighty years has been a landmark of Brooklyn.

The grounds for tax exemption were that Poly is not a profit taking institution, nor is it endowed.

During the six months of anxiety, many Poly fathers wrote letters to the Mayor and the Board of Taxes, and many of the leading papers of the city carried editorials in protest.

ETHEL MERMAN GIVES INTERVIEW  
TO REPORTER FROM POLYGRAPHIC

A performance of "Anything Goes," current musical comedy hit, had just finished. Suddenly a wild idea popped into your press representative's head, and a short while later he might be seen edging his way into the stage entrance of the Alvin Theater. A short argument and we are conducted to the object of our search by a husky guard. We ask to see Miss Merman, star of the show. The guard asks Miss Merman if she will see us, which she will, so we enter her cosy dressing room and gather our wits for the interview.

She was born in Astoria Queens twenty-four years ago. When she had reached the proper age, she entered Bryant High School. "I got a bigger kick out of going to Friday afternoon basketball games than I did out of figuring chemistry formulae or geometry theorems. I loved singing, and used to sing in school

(Continued on Page 3 Col. 1)



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William McConnell and Arthur Goat

Thursday, April 19, 1935

## HYMNBOK ART

Illustrating hymnbooks is a favorite pastime at Poly as the accompanying pictures show. These are only a few of the milder clippings which decorate the books in the Poly Chapel. It is interesting to observe that the practice is the most prevalent in the second and third forms, presumably because the maj-



ority of the boys grow up in their next few years. These are the results of an hour spent investigating the sad state of the Poly hymnbooks by a Polygraphic reporter.

It is exceedingly strange that boys of high school age cannot restrain the desire to scribble, even for a period of approximately fifteen minutes. It is a mark of childishness, nervousness, and inattention, according to a book on child psychology. Furthermore, it is not much credit to the school. What are visitors going to think, when they open our books and find such childish cartoons? Even the newest books presented to the school by the Oasis society already bear marks of the amateur illustrator.

Fellows, there are some things which we should treat with care and reverence. Hymnbooks are included. Let's cooperate in eliminating this impromptu art. At least, let's use our own paper.

## Humor

Army Sergeant: "When did you blow in?"  
Rookie: "In the last draft sir."

"He's a fraternity man."  
"How do you know?"  
"He answered to four names in class this morning."

A new one for the dictionary:-  
Two pints make one cavort.

Teacher: "Use the word tortous in a sentence."  
Student: "I tortous going to give us a vacation."

Prof: "This is the worst recitation I've had. I've had to do it mostly myself."

The rookie was on sentry duty for the first time. A dark form approached.

"Halt," cried the recruit, "Who is there?"

"The orderly officer."  
The orderly officer advanced, only to be stopped after a few paces by another "halt."

"This is the second time that you've halted me," observed the officer bitingly. "What are you going to do next?"

"My orders," was the reply, "are to call halt three times and then, shoot."

"What makes that ship float so high?"

"I suppose it's because the tide is out."

Servant: "The doctor's here sir."

Absent-minded man: "I can't see him. Tell him: I'm ill."

"Can you tell me what made the tower of Pisa lean?"

"I don't know, or I'd take some myself."

Robert's 4 months old sister had failed to show the usual increase in weight for the week, and Robert's mother was concerned.

"Mother," he said, "do you know that a baby was fed on elephants milk, and it gained 20 pounds in one week?"

"Nonsense," she replied. "Whose baby was it?"

"The elephant's baby," replied Robert.



"You show me the parts in Ulysses, and I'll show you the parts in Anthony Adverse."

## VAN-AU-MATIC

### Breakable Disc Target

Automatic-showing 10 "Dusters" discs in rapid succession. For use with .22 caliber cartridges. Weight 6 pounds. Retail for \$3.75.

### REPRINT FROM A RECENT ISSUE OF

#### THE NEW YORKER

Abercrombie & Fitch's single-shot air rifle at \$15 is something you would like to play with yourself. They also have a grand Winchester single-shot bolt-action .22 for \$6.35. Look at the Van automatic target while there. You shoot at something that looks like a poker chip, which is automatically replaced when hit.

THE FRED GOAT COMPANY, Inc.  
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## Summer Tutoring School at Poly Prep

TIME: July 15 to August 23, 1935, inclusive.

SESSIONS: Each weekday, except Saturday, from 9 A. M. to 1 P. M.

SUBJECTS: All subjects now taught at Poly.

AGES: From the Fifth Grade through High School.

STUDENTS: Primarily a boy's school, but girls will gladly be admitted.

RECREATION: Tennis courts, athletic field, fresh air and sunshine, absence of noise

FACULTY: Poly faculty.

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BROOKLYN, N. Y.

School—ATLantic 5-4500 Home—MANsfield 6-4630





ETHEL MERMAN GIVES INTERVIEW  
TO REPORTER FROM POLYGRAPHIC

(Continued from Page 1 Col.3)

and neighborhood amateur shows." Originally intending to be a teacher, Miss Merman finally decided that the stage was too great an attraction. Her first engagement in her chosen line was at the Little Russia Restaurant on the East Side, where a theatrical manager soon discovered her and obtained for her a contract to sing for Warner Brothers.

In reply to another question, she said that Eddie Cantor was her favorite actor. Leisure time offers no problem to her. "I have no time to concentrate on the things I would like to do," she smiled. When time does permit, however, she poses for various magazines; she is also under contract to appear at the Central park Casino.

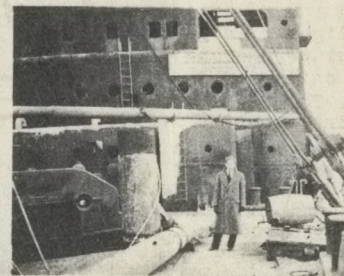
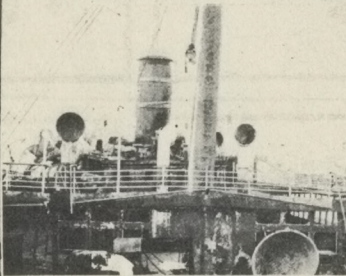
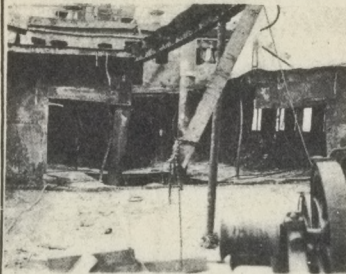
But our brief time is up now, so we must go, and looking back, we catch one last glimpse of the attractive, talented, brown haired actress before we leave.

STAR OF "ANYTHING GOES"



Ethel Merman

Presented As Evidence At Washington



These pictures, taken by two Polygraphic reporters on board the hulk of the Morro Castle, and the only ones of their kind in existence, were recently presented as evidence before the Sirovich Congressional committee investigating this terrible sea catastrophe. They were exhibited by Dr. J. Joseph Bregstein of Brooklyn, chairman of the Safety at Sea committee.

David Garmey and William McConnell, who took the photos, gained access to the ship two weeks ago.

Art Somers  
and his

RHYTHM  
MANIACS

IF YOU ARE PLANNING A DANCE  
BE SURE TO SUPPLY MUSIC  
YOUR GUESTS WILL ENJOY.



THEY CALL HIM THE  
"LONE WOLF." HE FLIES  
NORTH IN WINTER AND  
SOUTH IN SUMMER.

1328 PRESIDENT STREET, BROOKLYN.

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# FIFTH FORMER DISCOVERS ABOUT ALLIGATOR RAISING IN FLORIDA

(Continued from Page 1 Col. 2)

inhale, they rise up on their front legs and take a long deep breath, settling down to bask in the sun again. The noise which he makes in breathing can be heard for quite a distance.

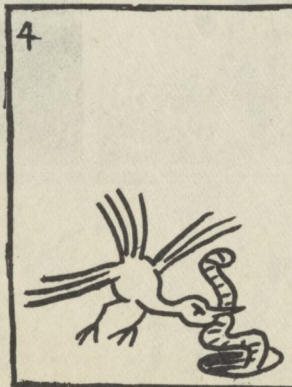
These alligators are for their skins mostly, which are made into leather goods. Owing to their great stamina (it is well known that an alligator has more endurance than a horse) they have to be killed by drowning.

The oldest alligator in captivity at present resides on this location. His age is estimated to be nine hundred years. The ages are determined by comparing the size of their skulls. Moreover this farm is the proud possessor of the only 5 legged critter in captivity. He was born with five legs and only half a tail, the fifth leg protruding from the center of his abbreviated tail.



Blue and Gray nominating speeches this year brought forth several unique features, such as Bill Zima's dramatic entrance through the air, Howard Rasi's Hawaiian costume, Farren's lack of pants, and Harris' blackened countenance.

## The Worm Is Early



Forsyth

## Charity Dance

Given By  
Forth Form  
At Poly Prep



TICKETS \$2.00

Gil Kretchman's  
Dance Orchestra

May 4, 9: PM.



## THE RHYTHM RAMBLERS

AN ORCHESTRA ENTIRELY COMPOSED OF YOUNG MEN CONNECTED  
WITH POLY. MUSIC FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

### Members

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Trumpets .....	Elkan Turk
	Thomas F. Creamer
Trombone .....	J. David Garmey
Saxophones .....	J. William Robinson
	Howard B. Rasi
Bass .....	William A. McConnell
Drums .....	Henry W. Riecken
	Edward Rand



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